# What next? Potential species replacements for black ash in northern Minnesota in a changing climate

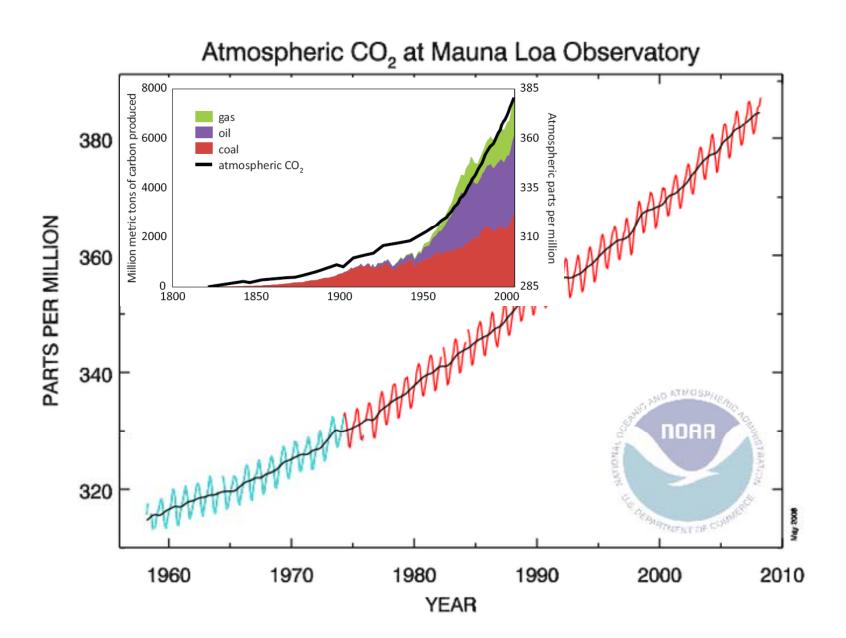
Black Ash Symposium Bemidji, MN

Louis R. Iverson<sup>1</sup>, Kathleen Knight<sup>1</sup>, Anantha Prasad<sup>1</sup>, Stephen Matthews<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Peters<sup>1</sup>, Daniel A. Herms<sup>2</sup> and Annemarie Smith<sup>3</sup>

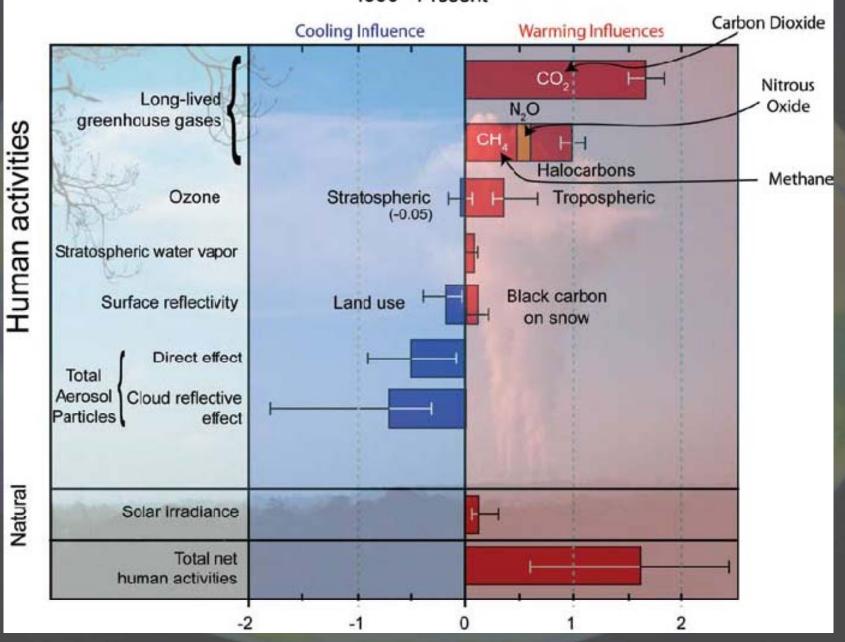
<sup>1</sup>Northern Research Station, NRS-02, Delaware, OH
 <sup>2</sup>Dept. Entomology, Ohio State University, Wooster, OH
 <sup>3</sup>Ohio DNR, Division of Forestry, Columbus, OH

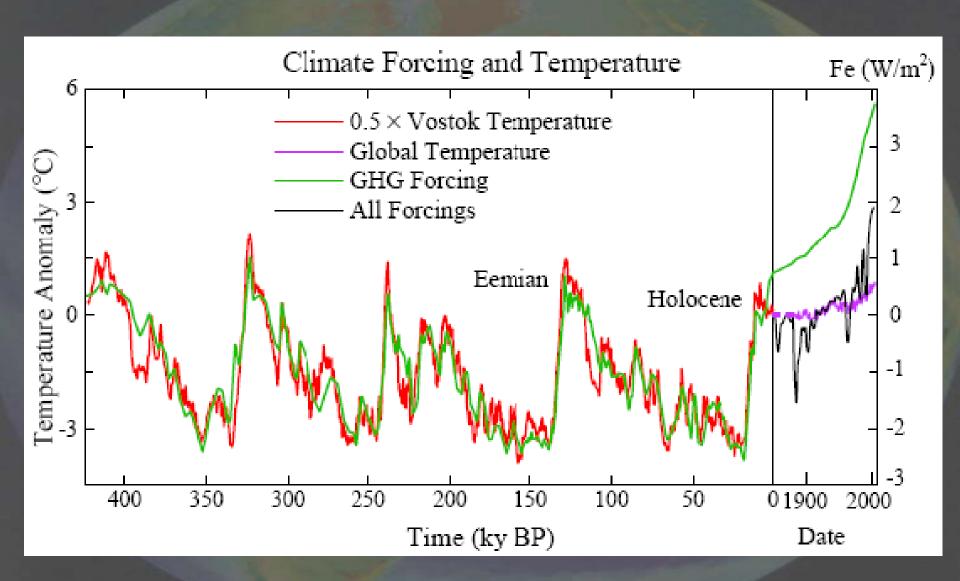
# Outline

- Some general climate trends
- Overview of our climate change modeling approach
- Potential species habitat changes by 2100
- Evaluation of MN FIA data
- Evaluation of Ohio and Michigan plots
- Summary of possible replacements for black ash



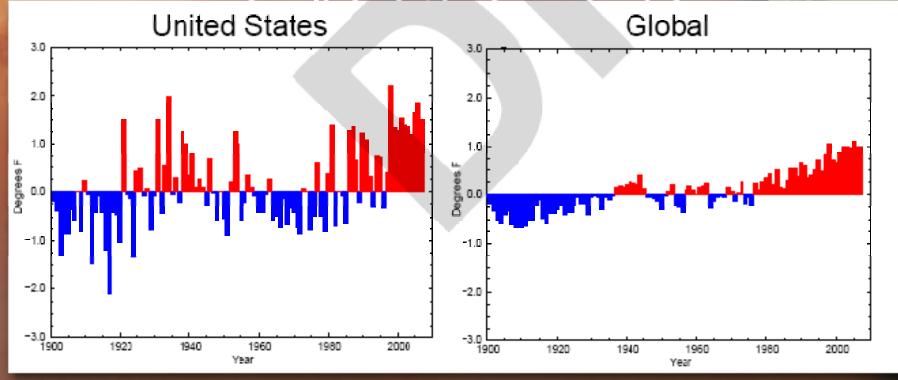
# Major Factors Affecting Climate 1950 - Present





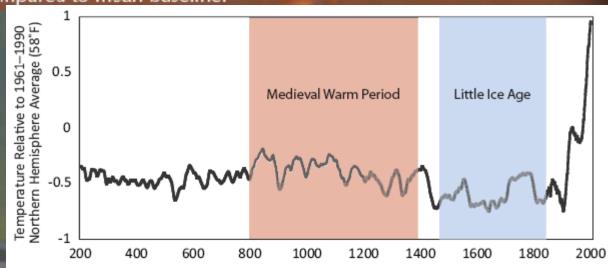
# Historic Climatic Trends

## Temperature Trends



Annual average temperatures compared to mean baseline.

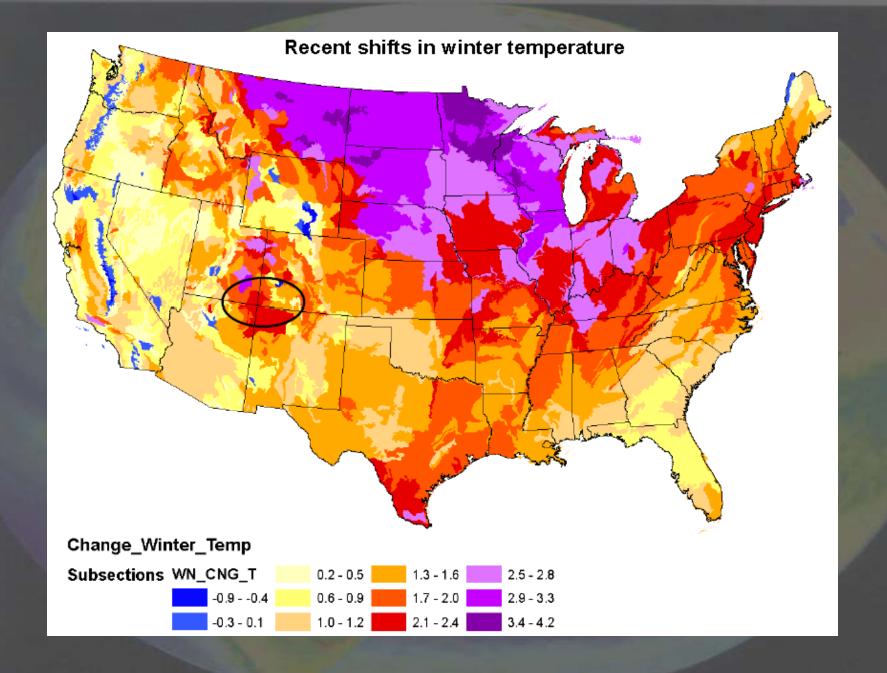
NOAA, 2009

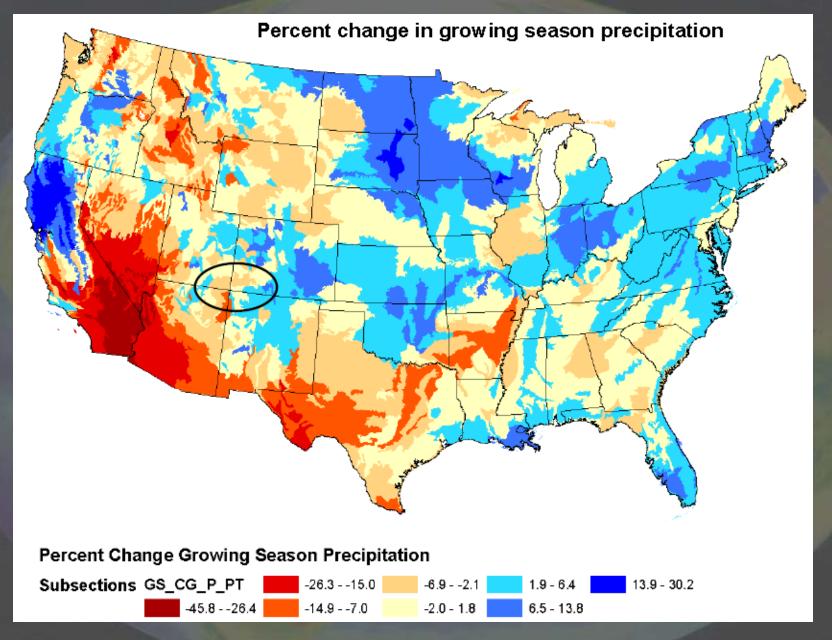


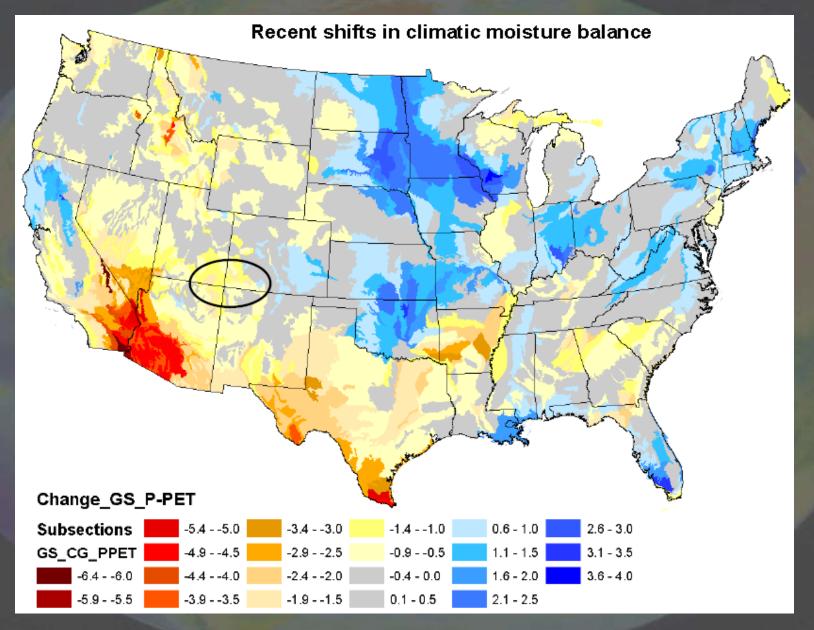
#### Recent shifts in climatic regimes

Comparison of components of climatic regimes of the 1961-1990 versus 1991-2007 periods

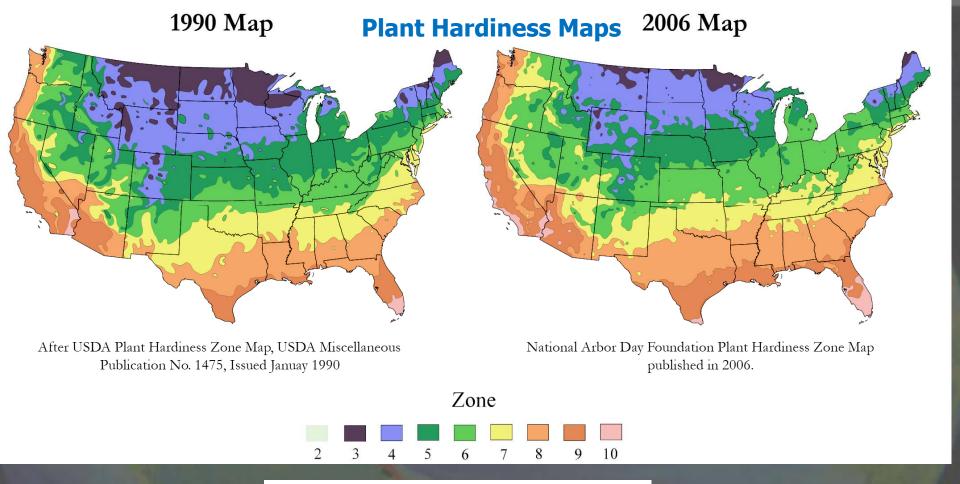
From Dave Cleland, USFS, 2010



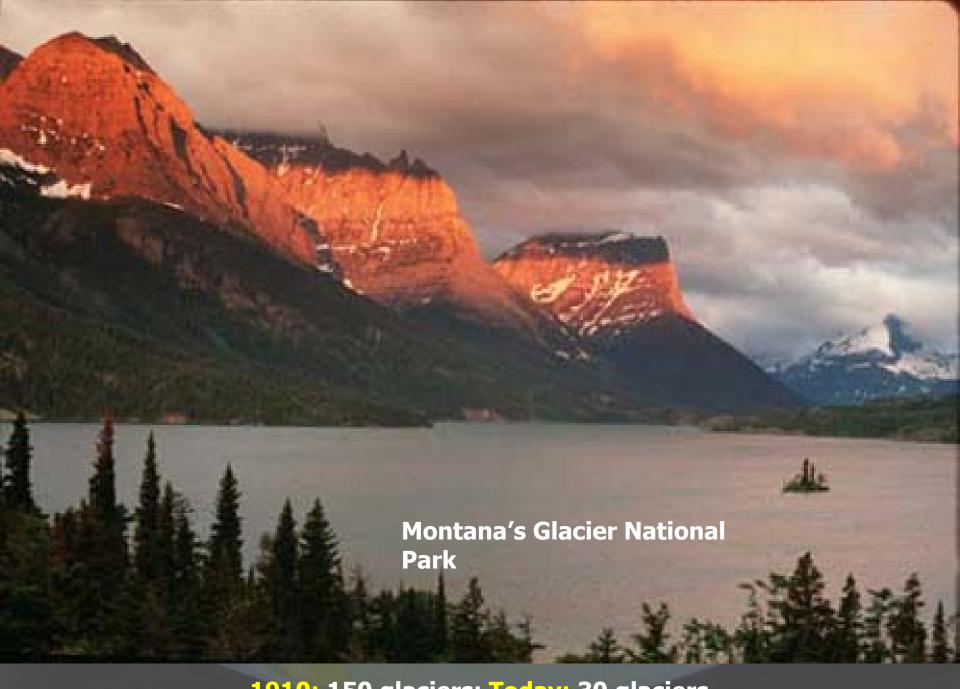




From Dave Cleland, USFS, 2010



Responses to warming temperatures seen in more than 26,000 physical and biological systems around the world.



1910: 150 glaciers; Today: 30 glaciers

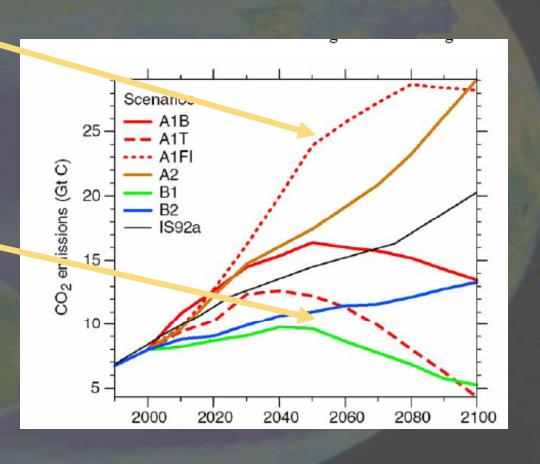
# Future effects

Highly tied to the level of CO2 emissions

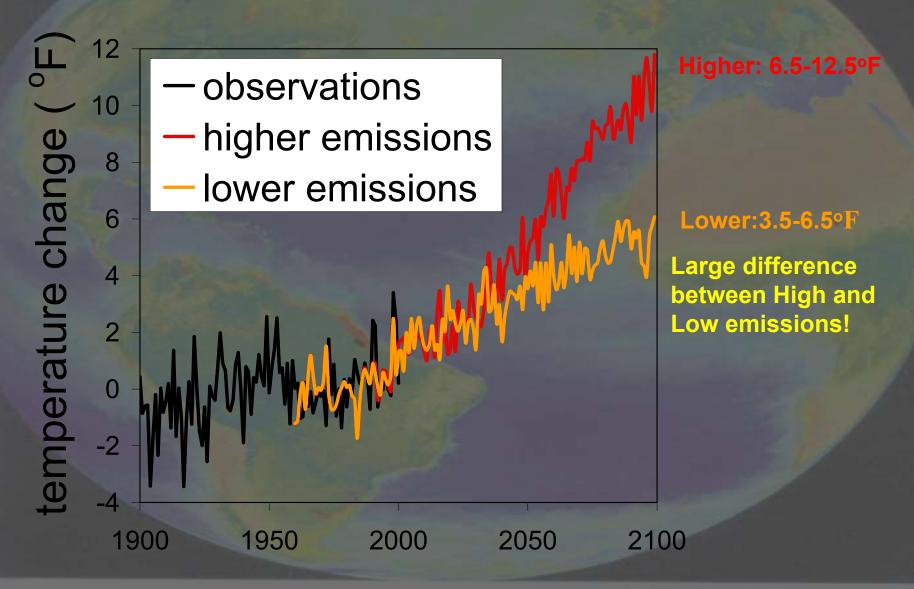
# Emissions of CO2 – range of scenarios over next 100 years

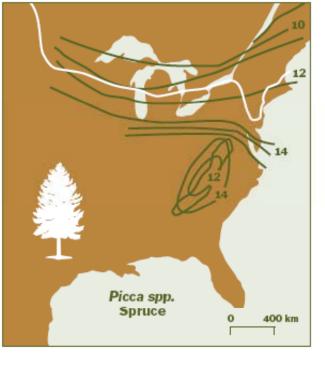
 A1fi (high)-fossil fuel intensive until later century

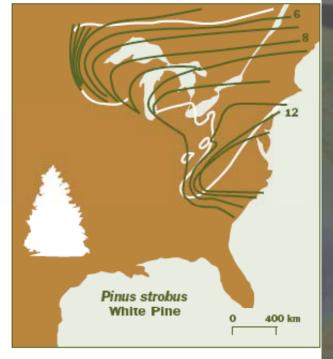
 B1 (low)-shift to resource efficient technology

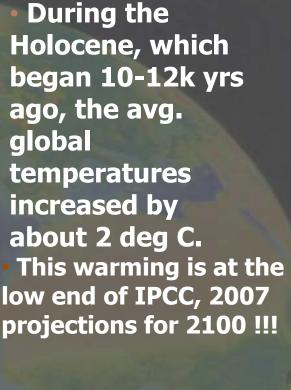


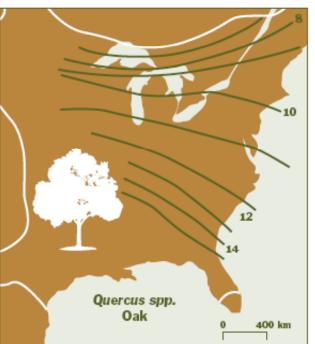
# Rising Temperatures in E. US (annual average)













How's present-day
vegetation going
change
with such rapid
climate change
+ human-landuse
disturbance ?!?

Source: Davis, 1981.

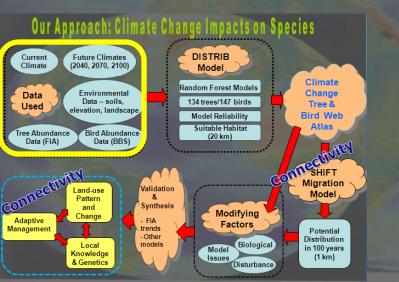
Our Approach: Climate Change Impacts on Species **DISTRIB** Current **Future Climates Climate** (2040, 2070, 2100) Model Climate Random Forest Models **Environmental** Change Data 134 trees/147 birds Data - soils, Tree & Used elevation, landscape **Bird Web Model Reliability Atlas Suitable Habitat Bird Abundance** Tree Abundance (20 km) Data (FIA) Data (BBS) **SHIFT Migration Validation** Land-use Model Pattern and **Synthesis** Change **Modifying Adaptive** - FIA **Factors** trends Management **Potential** - Other **Distribution Biological** Local models in 100 years Model **Knowledge** (1 km) **Issues** & Genetics Disturbance

### Assembling responses

# Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA)

- 37 states east of 100th meridian
- 134 tree taxa
- 103,488 plots
- 2,938,518 tree records

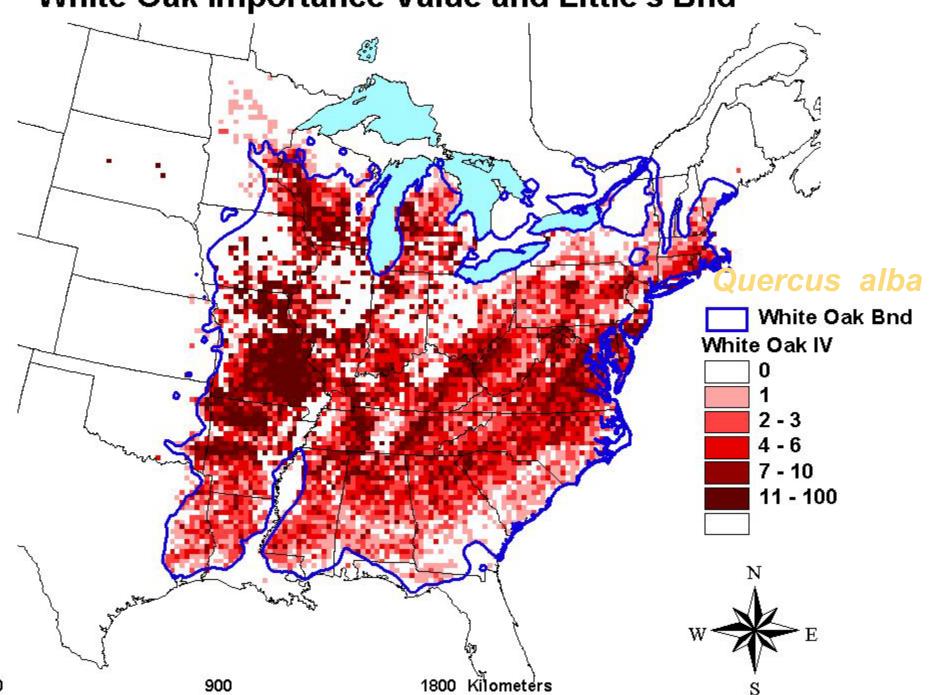
- Extract FIA plot data by State
- Calculate Importance Value (IV) for each species (basal area & no. of stems)
- Aggregate plots to 20x20 km grids (approx. 10,000 cells for eastern US)



#### OUTDUT

Importance Values (Abundances) (IV) for 134 tree species by 20 km cell (Range of IV: 0-100)

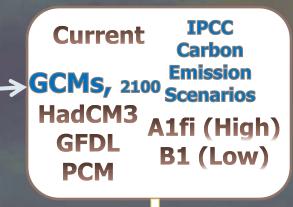
#### White Oak Importance Value and Little's Bnd



## Tree species predictors

#### **38 Predictors**

- 7 Climate
- 9 Soil Classes
- •13 Soil Properties
- •5 Elevation
- 3 Land-use
- 1 Fragmentation Index



A1fi + HadCM3 (HadHi) – Most extreme

**B1** + PCM (PCMLo)— Least extreme

Had+GFDL+PCM/A1fi - Ave Hi

Had+GFDL+PCM/B1 - Ave Lo

## **Modeling species habitats**

(Importance Values)

FIA Current

(2040, 2070, 2100) Model Random Forest Models Environmental Data 134 trees/147 birds Data - soils. Used elevation, landscape Model Reliability Suitable Habitat Bird Abundance (20 km) Validation Land-use Pattern Synthesis and Modifying Change **Factors** 

**Future Climates** 

Knowledge

& Genetics

DISTRIB

Climate

Change

Tree &

Bird Web

Atlas

Model

Potential Distribution

in 100 years

(1 km)

Biological

Disturbance

**Importance Values** for 134 Tree **Species** 

**DISTRIB** Tree Model

Model **Predicted** Current

Climat

- Soil
- Elevation
- Land-use
- Landscape

**GCM Climate** Swap

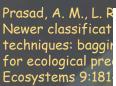
HadCM3, PCM, GFDL (Hi & Low Emissions) **Model Predicted Future Suitable** Habitat

**Importance Maps** 

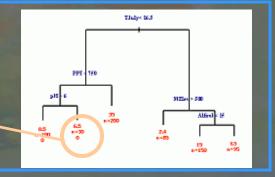
Hotspot **Change Maps**  **Mean Center Distribution Maps** 

Ranked **Species Lists** 

#### Tri-Model Approach







Helps understand relationships, and map drivers

TJuly < 16.5

Single Decision Tree

750 &//3 random sampling of observations for each tree PH <= 6









30 decision trees

Bagging Trees

use 30 decision trees to assess variability among individual tree models - a measure of model reliability

Model Reliability: ⋒ High 🦲 Medium (





Random sampling + randomized subset of predictors for each tree

















1000 decision trees

Random Forests

best for prediction without overfitting

# Important!

- With these DISTRIB models, we are predicting potential suitable habitat by year 2100. We are NOT predicting where the species will be at that time, as great lag times are involved in tree species migrations.
- We attempt to get at the potential movements over the next 100 yrs with the SHIFT model.





Northern Research Station



You are here: NRS Home / Tools & Applications / Climate Change Atlas / Tree Atlas

#### Climate Change Tree Atlas (A Spatial Database of 134 Tree Species of the Eastern USA)

anantha M Prasad, Louis R Iverson, Steve Matthews, Matt Peters

Atlas Background What's New | Citations |

Atlas Help Credits

#### Table of 134 Tree Species:

Reliability	Spp. #	Common Name	Scientific Name
0	951	American basswood	Tilia americana
	531	American beech	Fagus grandifolia
0	421	American chestnut	Castanea dentata
0	972	American elm	Ulmus americana
•	591	American holly	Пех ораса
0	391	American hornbeam:musclewood	Carpinus caroliniana
0	935	American mountain-ash	Sorbus americana
	43	Atlantic white-cedar	Chamaecyparis thyoides

#### Climate Change Tree Atlas Other Links (DropDownMenu) Model Reliability: 📵 High 🚫 Medium 🬑 Low 134 Species Combined/Compared



Northern Research Station

Other Links (DropDownMenu

Cer Saccharum) Pick Another Species

Climate Change

#### species milorinacion

Family: Aceraceae

Guild: persistent, slow-growing understory tolerant

Functional Lifeform: large deciduous tree

Life History and Disturbance Response

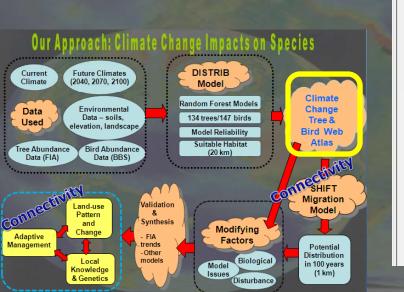
#### **External Species Links**

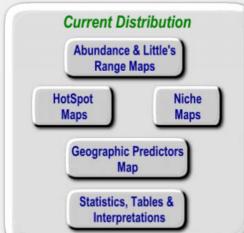
Silvics Manual: Click here for sugar maple

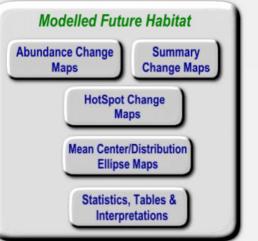
Plant Photos: Photos of the tree in USDA Plants Database

Google Earth: View current and modelled sugar maple

Research Products (IMPORTANT: Read this first)

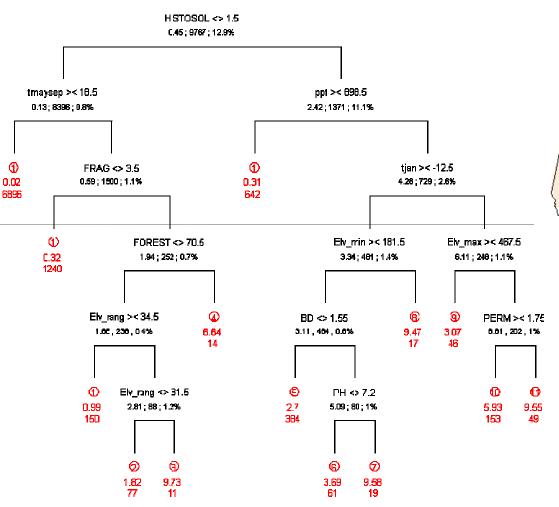


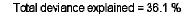


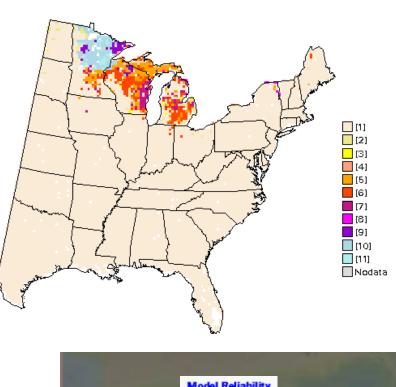


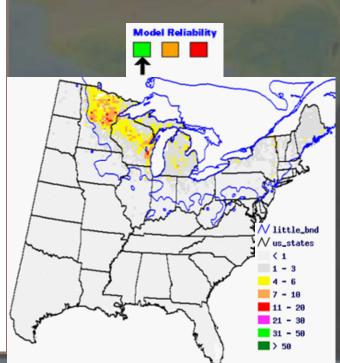
http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/atlas

#### **Black Ash**

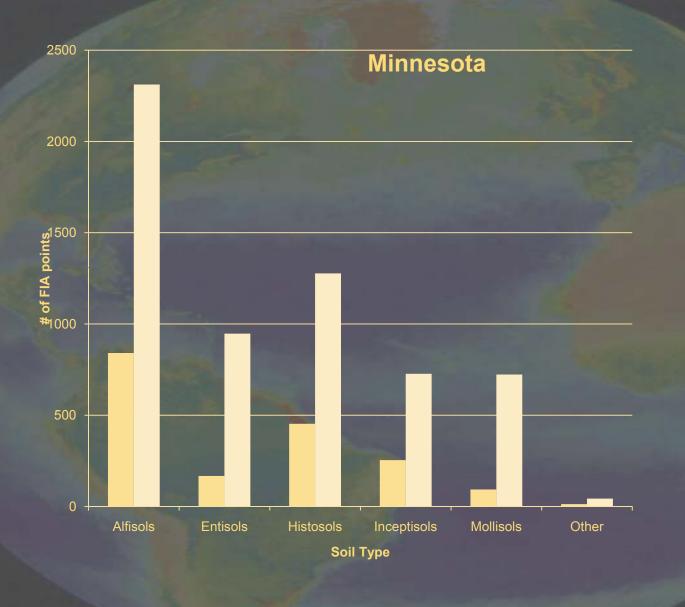




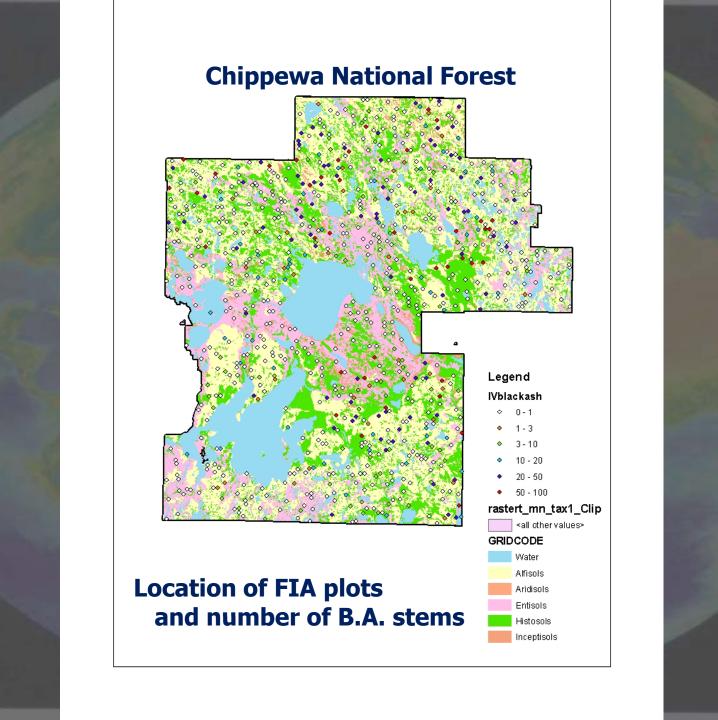


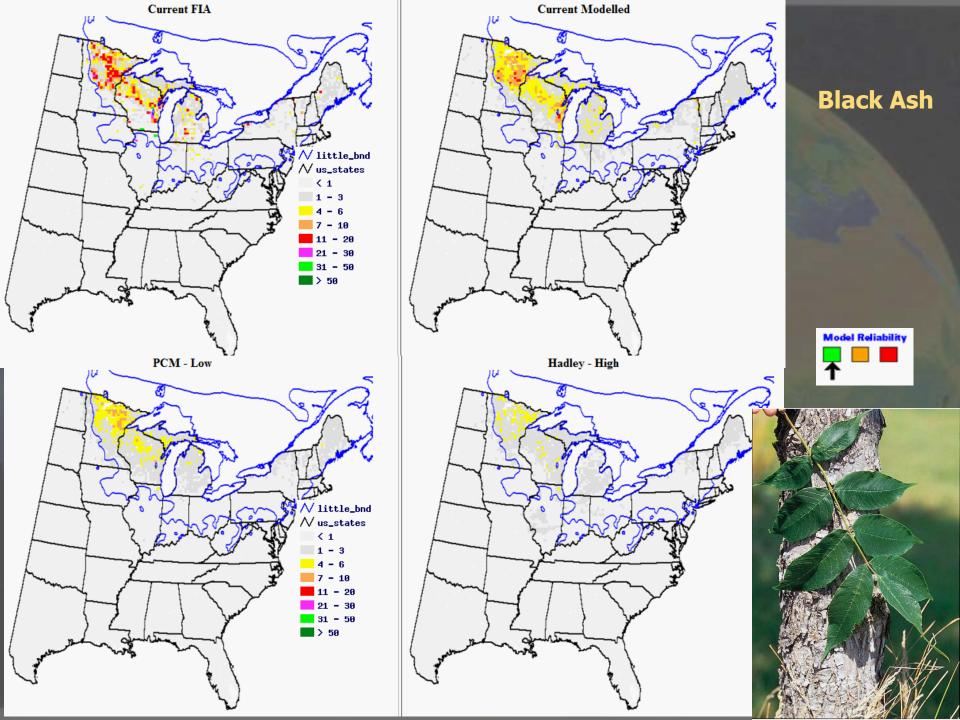


#### **Number of MN FIA Plots with Black Ash Present**



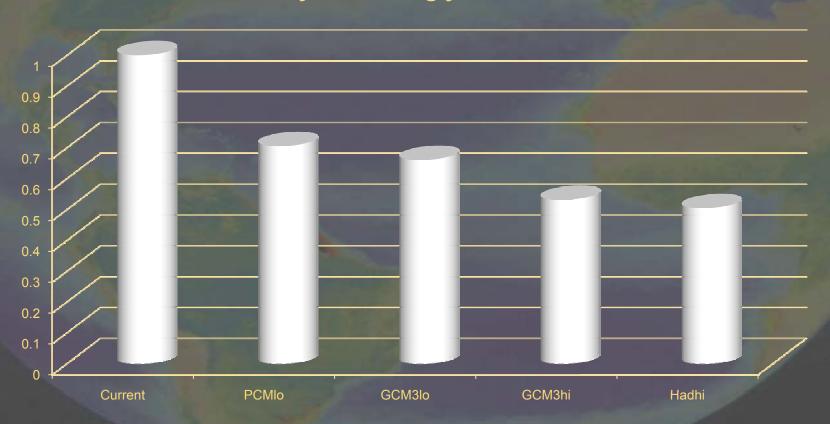
■ Present ■ Absent

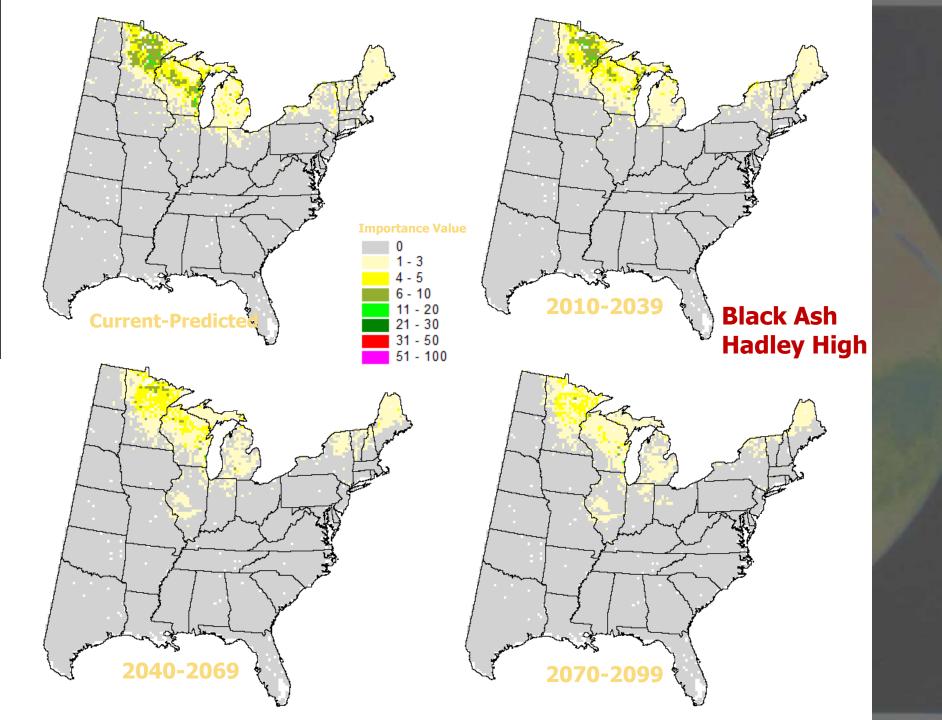


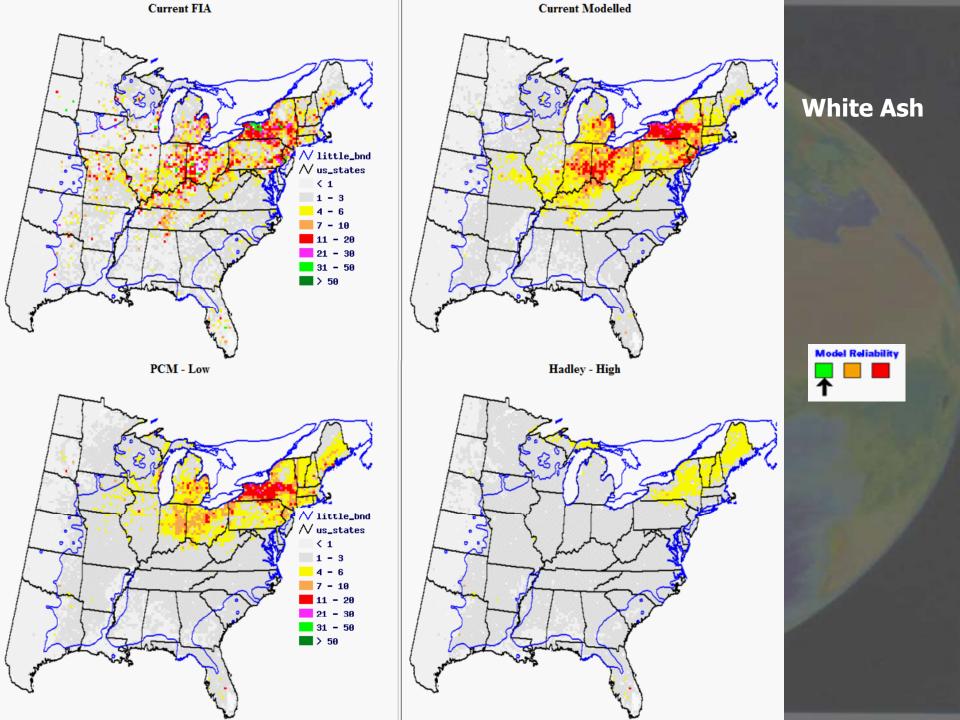


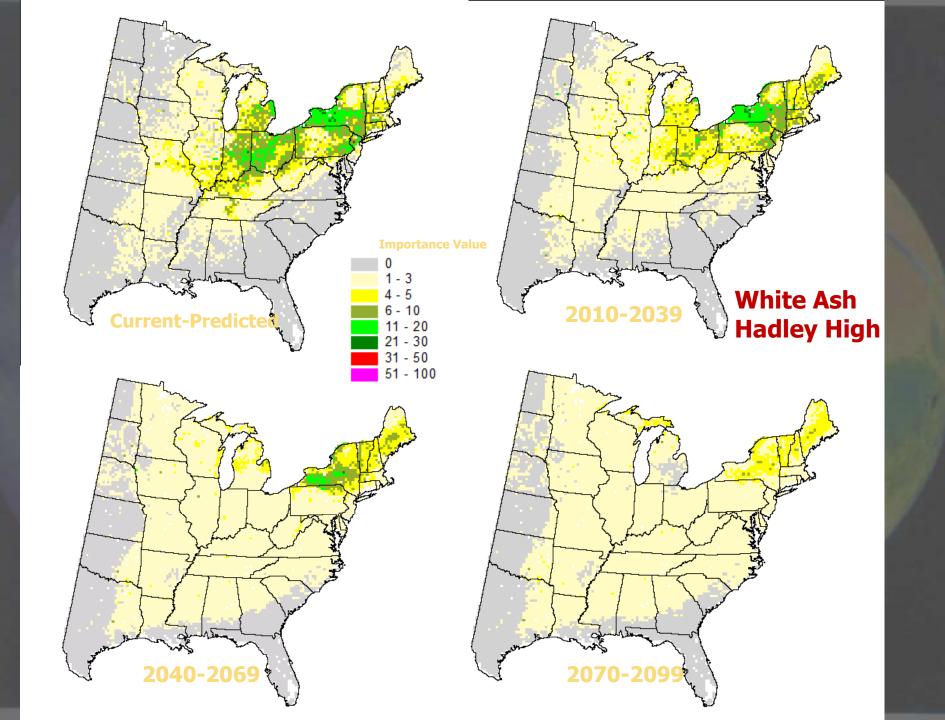
# Black ash habitat would decline by 2100

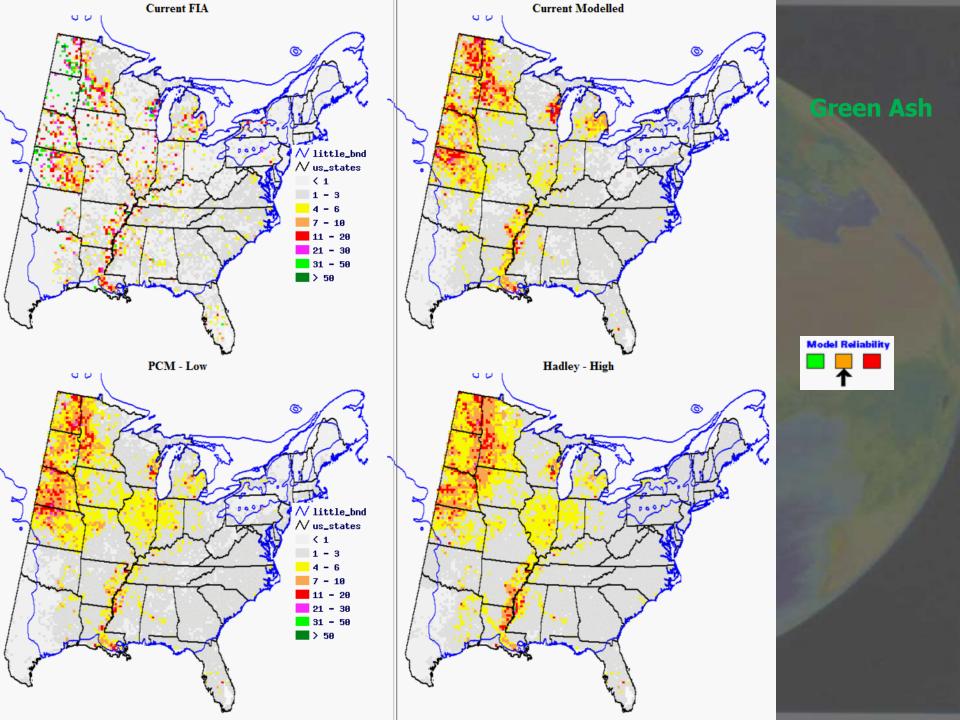
Ratio of Suitable Habitat in Future to Now by Increasingly Harsh Scenario



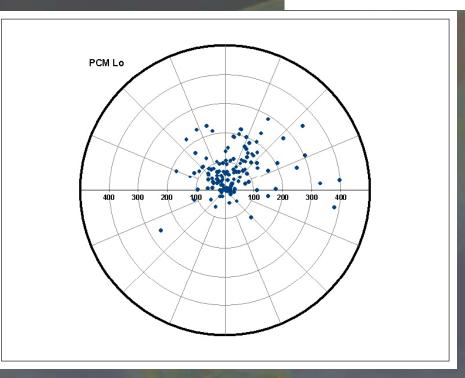








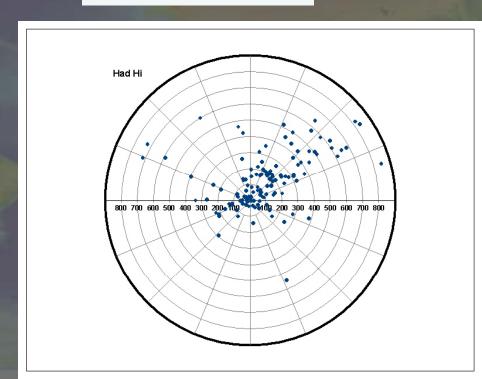
#### **Mean Center Potential Movement**



**Two points:** 

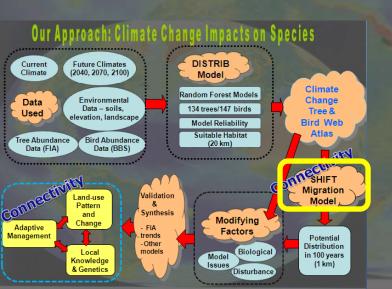
- 1. Emission levels make big difference
- 2. Species will change individually

Direction and distance (km) movement



## Lessons Learned

Separate the discussion of potential changes in suitable habitat from that of potential species range changes within a certain time frame.

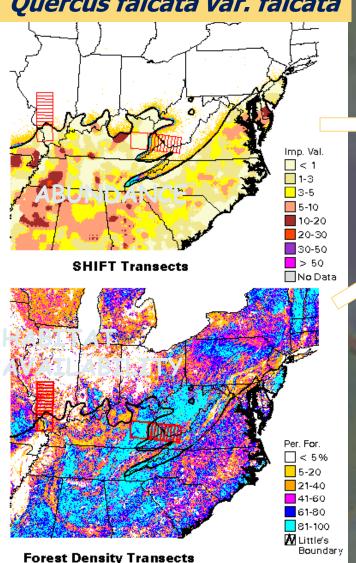


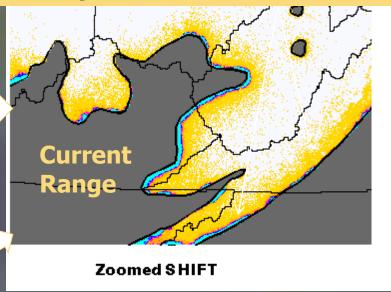
RandomForest based **Spatially explicit Statistical Model** cell-based Model (potential suitable (colonization probability) habitat) **FIA Data Calculate IV Future** Current **Climate Species** Climate (Hadley, PCM, GFDL) **Range Maps** 100yr **Smoothed** Colonization IV **Probabilities Percent Forest Environmental Variables** 

#### How much of the new suitable habitat might get colonized in 100 years?

Quercus falcata var. falcata

Probability of colonization, 0-100%, 100 yrs





- For 5 species, less than 15% of new habitat would have much chance of getting colonized
- Large lag effect suitable habitat changes much faster than species can migrate

#### Lessons Learned

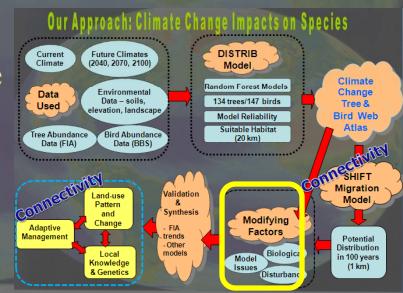
Consider variations in disturbance, biology, and model issues on each modeled species.

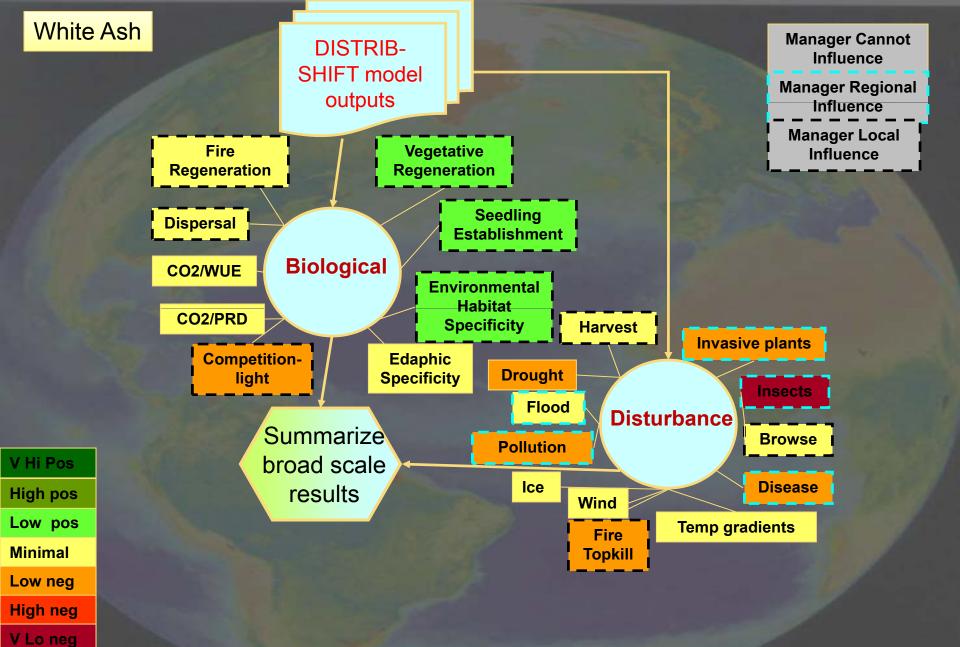
 No model, statistical or otherwise, can include all the biological or disturbance factors that may influence a species' response to climate change

Need a method to incorporate other influences –

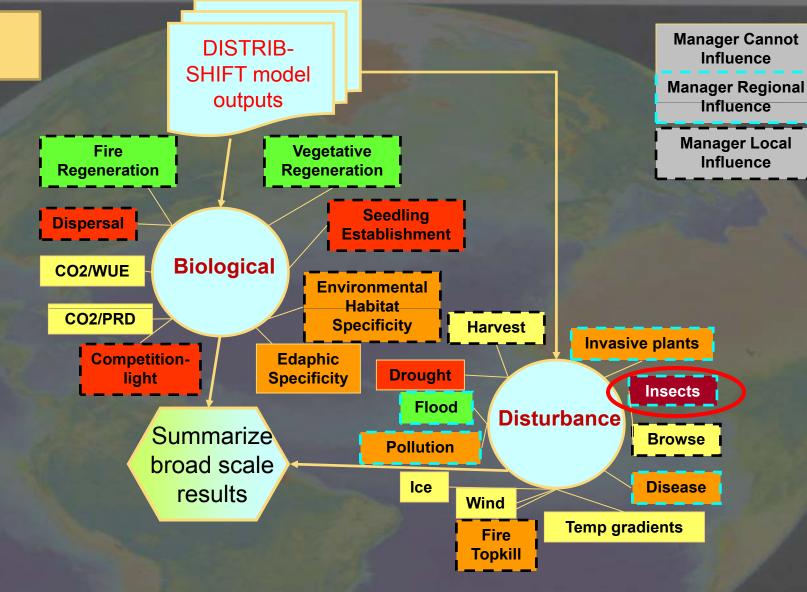
modifying factors

Glean literature and generatea scoring system to rate21 factors





Black Ash



V Hi Pos

High pos

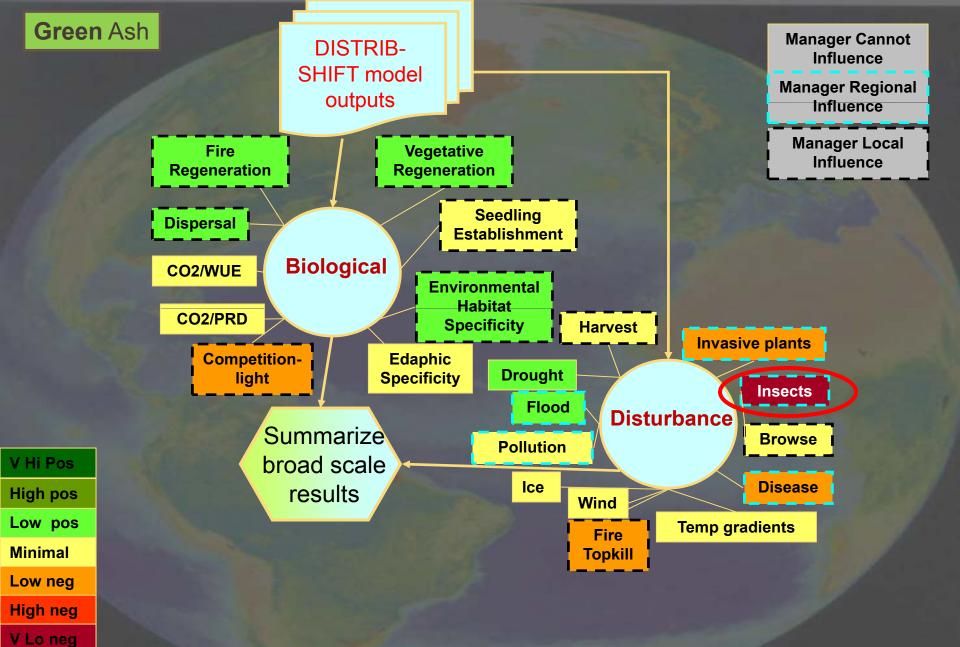
Low pos

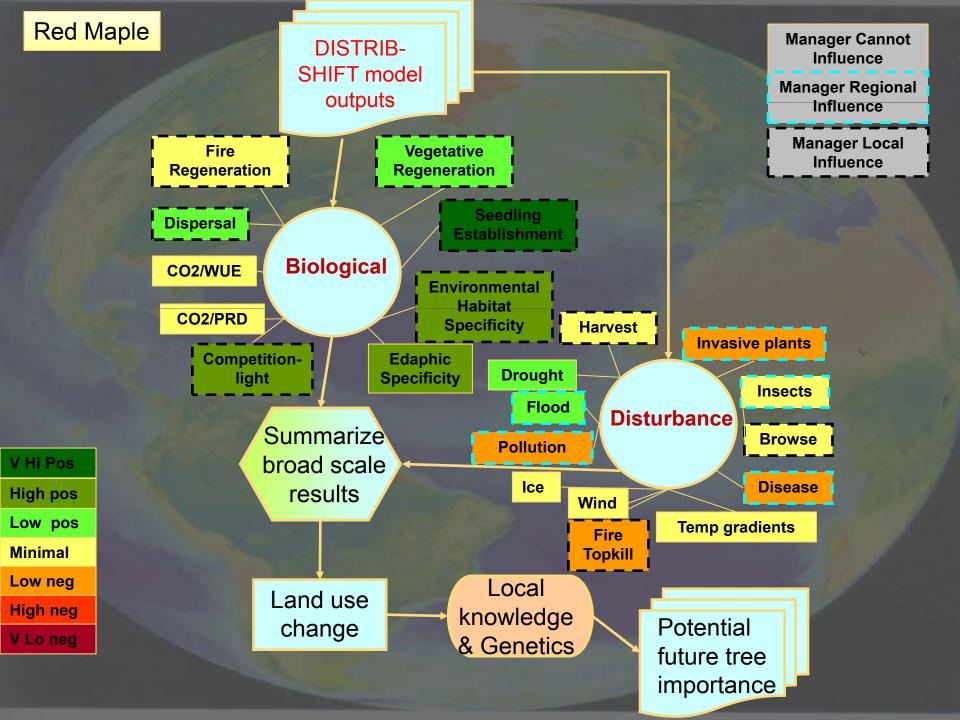
**Minimal** 

Low neg

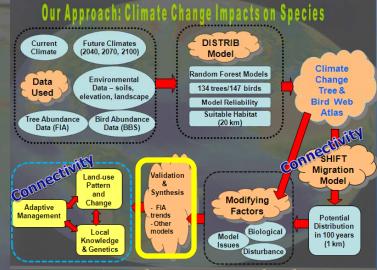
High neg

V Lo neg





#### Lessons Learned



#### Search for data to support (or not) the models

- Convergence of multiple models
  - e.g., Nielson et al. (MAPPS, MC1)
  - Mladenoff et al. (LANDIS-II)
- Documentations of species changes
  - e.g., northward or elevation expansions,
  - changes in forest types
- Other surrogate ways to determine possible trends
  - E.g., Woodall et al. (FIA data)



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

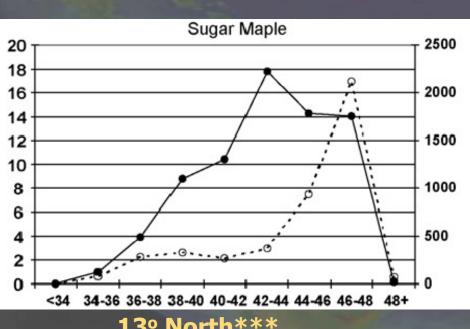
#### Forest Ecology and Management

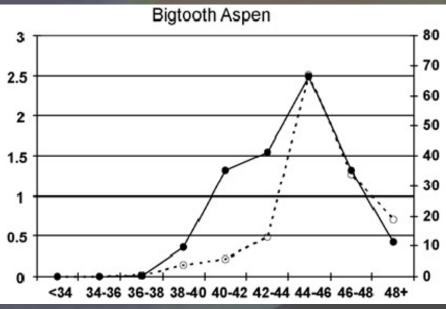




An indicator of tree migration in forests of the eastern United States

C.W. Woodall<sup>a,\*</sup>, C.M. Oswalt<sup>b</sup>, J.A. Westfall<sup>c</sup>, C.H. Perry<sup>a</sup>, M.D. Nelson<sup>a</sup>, A.O. Finley<sup>d</sup>



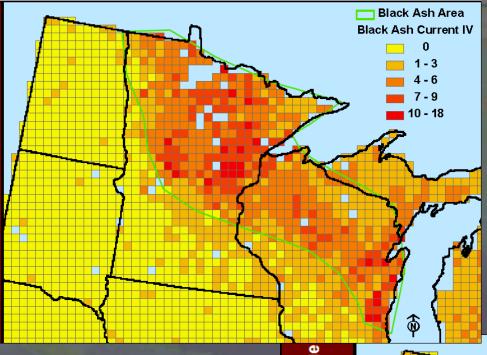


.13° North\*\*\*

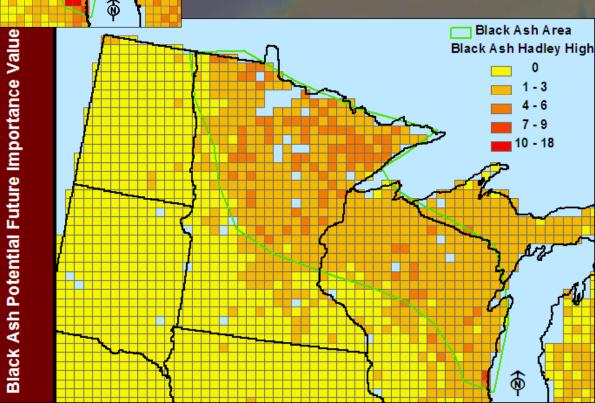
.46° North \*\*\*

37 of 40 species have general tendencies in agreement with our models



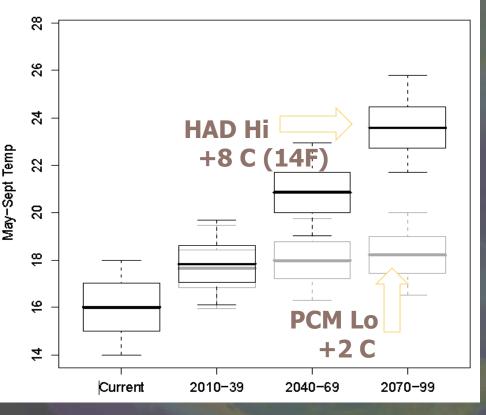


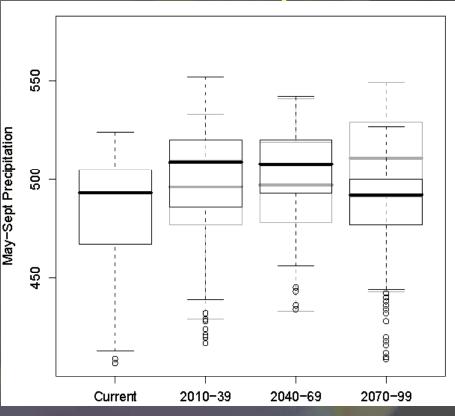
Black Ash "zone" and Habitat, 2000



Black Ash Habitat, 2100, Had Hi

# Expected growing season changes (for northern Wisconsin)





Growing season temperature higher and not much change in precipitation = more physiological stress on biota

# Potential Changes for Tree Species

- Evaluated 85 species from the region
- Put in to 8 classes of impacts
  - Class 1: extirpated (2 species)
  - Class 2: large decrease (6 species)
  - Class 3: small decrease (14 species)
  - Class 4: no change (5 species)
  - Class 5: small increase (10 species)
  - Class 6: large increase (23 species)
  - Class 7: new entry-high and low emissions (12 species)
  - Class 8: new entry-high emissions (13 species)
- Score each species for modification factors to help managers interpret potential impacts and suggest adaptation strategies → Large tables!

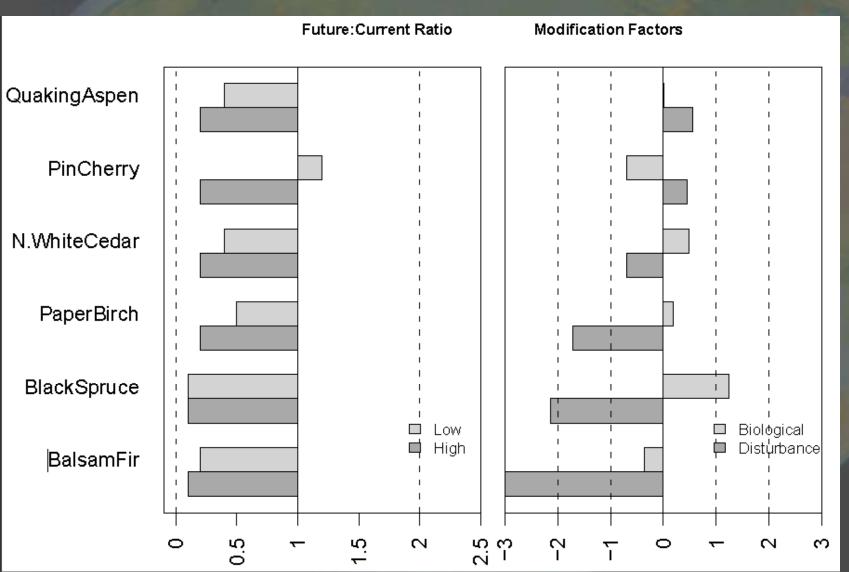
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4	114	33	72	118	255	247	1.0					nump utile sate	Queens bissler
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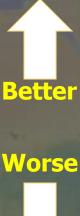
Losers

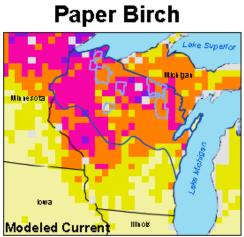
Gainers

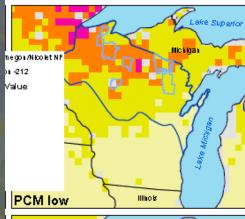
Migrators

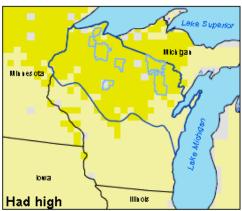
## Large Decreasers (Cl. 2)









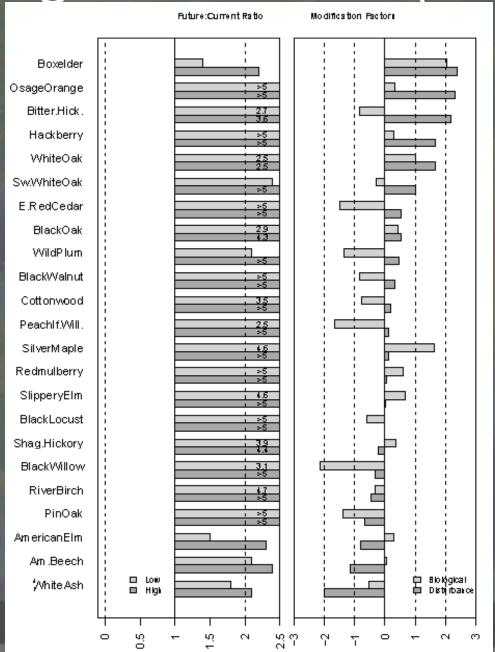




Class 2, Large Decreasers

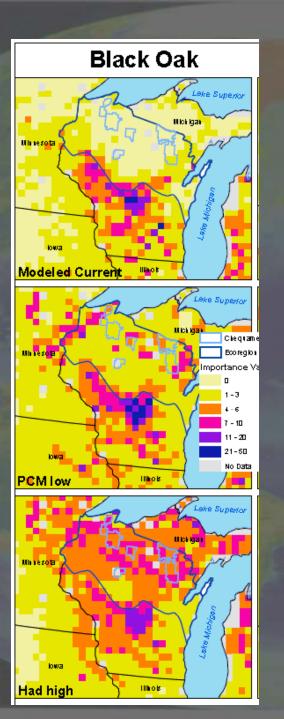
(especially under Had High scenario of climate change)

### Large Increasers (Cl. 6)





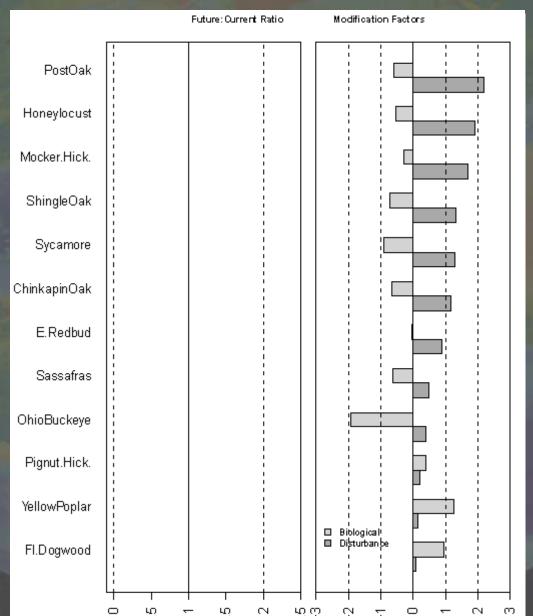




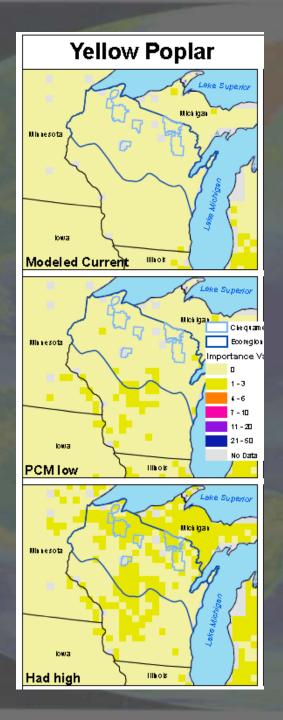


Class 6, Large Increasers

# New Migrants, low or high





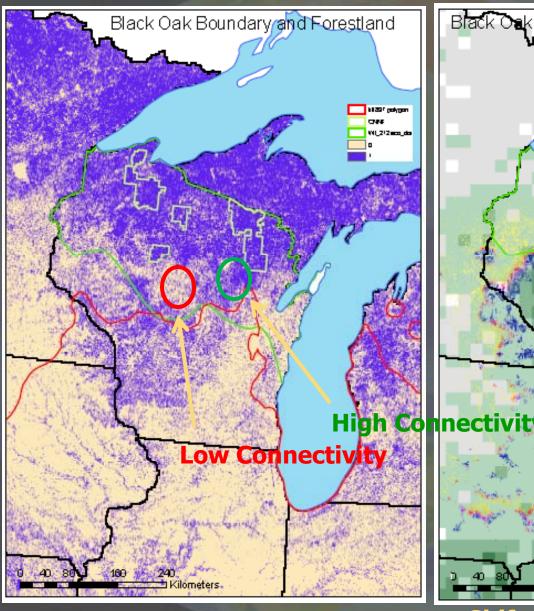


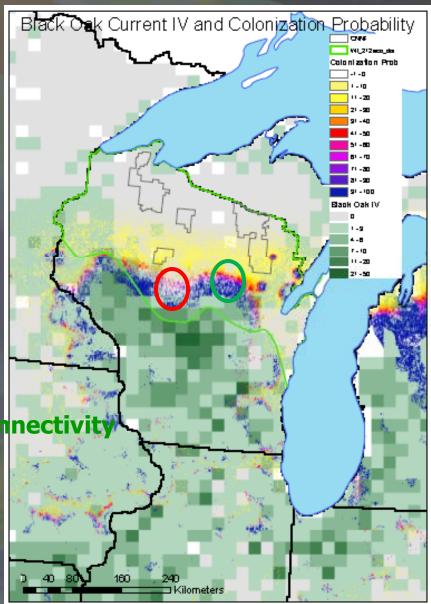


Class 7
New Migrants,

Any scenario of climate change.

#### SHIFT (preliminary): Black oak potential migration by 2100





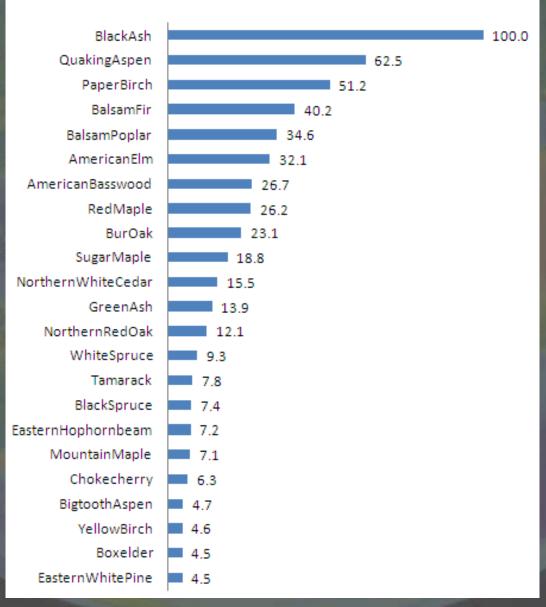
Shift (Preliminary)Output on Current Black Oak IV

Forest Density (NLCD data 2000)

### Evaluate FIA plots for MN

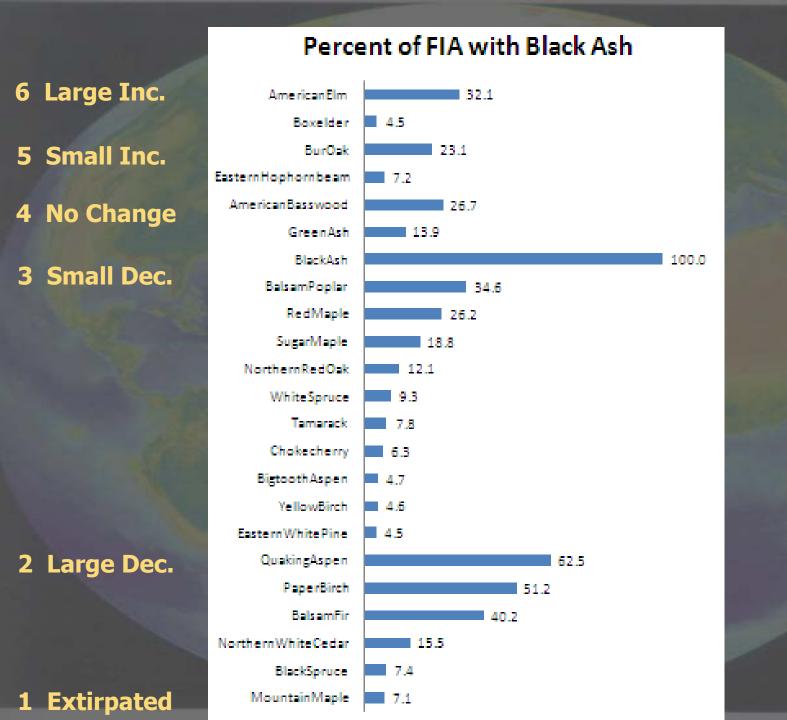
- FIA from last periodic inventory, not precise locations
- Of 9427 plots, 2176 (23%) had black ash
- Of these, we evaluated 23 species cooccurring on >4% of the plots

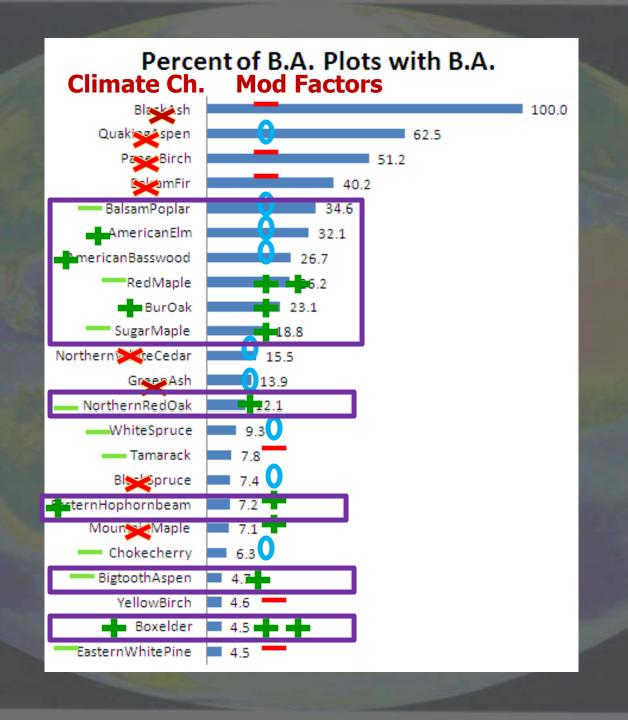




# Species with High Potential to Replace Black Ash in the long term

- Already live with black ash, either in MN or in points south (OH or MI)
- Have potential to do well or at least OK under climate change – according to our DISTRIB models
- Have characteristics which allow it to do well under predicted outcomes of climate change – according to our ModFactors





# Some summary thoughts on ash and their replacements

- The short-term disturbance of EAB infestation will drastically overwhelm longer term impacts of climate change.
- Some of the species on list of potential replacements may seem ridiculous to consider as possible replacements. Some will be ridiculous but I encourage being generous in selecting species for further analysis and testing.
- Very subtle variations in topography and soils can greatly influence which species may be appropriate. Carefully control and map these factors to minimize mis-matching.

### Management Implications

Potential management implications resulting from the above trends include:

- Encourage increased connectivity for increaser species.
- Evaluate potential for assisted migration.
- Encourage retention of refugia which may allow persistence of decreaser species.
- Prepare for additional costs likely required to maintain forest health due to increased stress and disturbances (e.g., insect pests, diseases, fire, ice, drought).
- Prepare for quite dramatic changes in some iconic north woods species!
- This is a terrific application for adaptive management!

### Thank you!

For further information, consult our web atlas (www.nrs.fs.fed.us/atlas) or contact me

(liverson@fs.fed.us)